

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. Apparatus for treating age-related macular degeneration, the apparatus comprising a light source which, in operation, enables a therapeutic light beam to be emitted in a manner similar to the light source used in the context of dynamic phototherapy, wherein said light source is designed to emit a therapeutic light beam presenting an emission wavelength lying in the range 1.26  $\mu\text{m}$  to 1.27  $\mu\text{m}$ , thereby generating intracellular singlet oxygen directly and in sufficient quantity.
2. Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the power of the therapeutic light beam lies in the range 1 mW to 1 W, and preferably in the range 10 mW to 1 W.
3. Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the therapeutic light source is a laser source.
4. Apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the laser source comprises an optical fiber Raman laser.
5. Apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the optical fiber Raman laser comprises a pump laser diode, an ytterbium-doped optical fiber laser, and a Raman converter serving to transpose the wavelength of the beam coming from the ytterbium-doped optical fiber laser.
6. A method of treating age-related macular degeneration, the method consisting in using a light source that enables a therapeutic light beam to be emitted in a manner similar to the light source used in the context of dynamic phototherapy, wherein said light source is designed to emit a therapeutic light beam presenting an emission wavelength lying in the range 1.26  $\mu\text{m}$  to 1.27  $\mu\text{m}$  so as to generate intracellular singlet oxygen directly and in sufficient quantity.

7. A method according to claim 6, wherein the power of the therapeutic light beam lies in the range 1 mW to 1 W, and preferably in the range 10 mW to 1 W.

5 8. A method according to claim 6, wherein the therapeutic light source is a laser source.

9. A method according to claim 8, wherein the laser source comprises an optical fiber Raman laser.

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10. A method according to claim 9, wherein the optical fiber Raman laser comprises a pump laser diode, an ytterbium-doped optical fiber laser, and a Raman converter serving to transpose the wavelength of the beam  
15 coming from the ytterbium-doped optical fiber laser.